

Dear Neighbor,

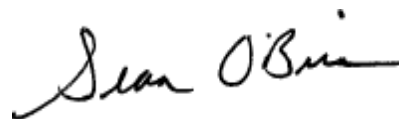
Thank you for contacting the HomeFront program. Since 1988, members of the community have been teaming up with our program to provide quality of life repairs for homeowners with significant financial limitations. Up to now, 2,600 neighbors have received assistance in our program's history.

All of the repairs are provided by teams of volunteers at no cost to the homeowner. The actual repair work itself is concentrated into one day of "hands on" assistance during the first weekend of May. Qualifications for HomeFront are based on need, the condition of the home, and the ability of participating volunteers to undertake needed repairs. The applicant should list special considerations, such as health needs.

I invite you to review the enclosed information. If you feel that you would qualify, please fill out both sides of the accompanying "2013 Homeowner Application" and mail it in to us. **Applications must be received before November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 to be considered for help within our 2013 season.** HomeFront representatives will be in contact to set up a mutually convenient appointment to get a firsthand look at your repairs, typically between the months of September through December.

The HomeFront program does not verbally communicate any information on whether or not an applicant will be assisted. All applicants will be notified *in writing* by the end of March or early April 2013. Requests that are received after November 16, 2012 will be evaluated for our 2014 season. We are always available to answer any questions that you may have at our toll-free number: 800-887-4673.

With best wishes,



Sean C. O'Brien  
Executive Director

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## **APPLYING TO OUR PROGRAM IS A TWO-STEP PROCESS:**

- **STEP ONE – The Application**

<b>You Are Eligible to Apply If:</b>
1) You live in any of the following counties: Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, New Haven, Connecticut; or Westchester County, New York.
2) Your total annual household income qualifies you as low-income in your community. This includes all income sources: social security, pension, rents, investments, unemployment, etc. Applicants must disclose the income of all adults who live at the property.
3) Your home is your only residence.
4) You currently live in the home for which you are seeking assistance.
5) You have every intention of remaining in your home for at least five years.
6) You divulge tax liens or any other reason that you may lose your home to foreclosure.
7) You are willing to disclose arrangements to resolve liens or back taxes.

<b>You Are NOT Eligible to Apply If:</b>
1) You do not live in any of the following counties: Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, New Haven, Connecticut; or Westchester County, New York.
2) You own more than one home.
3) Your annual income combined with other household members exceeds low income standards in your community.
4) You plan to sell your home within the next five years.
5) You do not currently live in the home for which you are seeking assistance.
6) You live in an apartment, condominium or mobile home.

We suggest that those who are not eligible to apply for assistance from our program consult your local social service agency.

- **STEP TWO – The Site Visit**

Once the application is received, we will start by checking to see if volunteer teams are available in your area to help. If volunteer teams are identified within your community then we will contact each homeowner to schedule a site visit to evaluate the repair needs.

**Please Fill Out the Attached Application and  
Return It to Our Office Before November 16, 2012.**

## WHAT IS THE HOMEFRONT PROGRAM?

HomeFront is a community-based home repair program that helps homeowners and community centers who are financially unable to maintain their homes/facilities. Repairs are made by sponsoring teams of volunteers at no cost to the recipients.

**Our next HomeFront Day is Saturday, May 4, 2013.**

2013 marks the 26<sup>th</sup> annual HomeFront Day. We have operated in over 140 communities. Each year thousands of volunteers (many of whom are professional trades people) repair homes, shelters and community centers in Fairfield, New Haven, Hartford and Litchfield Counties in Connecticut, as well as Westchester County, New York.

## HOW ARE HOMES SELECTED?

HomeFront selects homeowners on the basis of individual needs, number of teams, and the available funds to support each project. With referral help from community service organizations, senior citizen groups, religious organizations, public service advertising and “word of mouth,” HomeFront evaluates nearly 600 applicants each year. The homes must be owner occupied. Candidates may apply at any time during the year. Interviews are conducted during the Fall and Winter months, with final selections made by early April 2013. All work takes place on the first Saturday of May each year.

## WHAT REPAIRS ARE DONE?

The goal of HomeFront is to provide free construction repairs to homes and community centers focusing on the neediest circumstances. Our program staff and volunteers work “hand in hand” with the recipients to provide improvements and repairs that will be the most meaningful to them and have the greatest impact on their quality of life. Repairs include carpentry, plumbing, electric work, drywall, weatherproofing, roof repairs, lock repair, window replacement, installation of smoke detectors and fire extinguishers, painting, cleaning, and yard work, among others.

## WHO PAYS FOR THE REPAIRS?

HomeFront relies on contributions from companies, faith-based, civic and educational groups, as well as from individuals to cover direct costs of the program. In addition, local suppliers and manufacturers are asked to donate materials and professionals donate their services. There is no cost to the homeowner or community center to receive assistance from HomeFront.

## WHO CAN VOLUNTEER?

Volunteers come from all walks of life in a true vertical slice of our neighborhoods. Firemen, lawyers, accountants, business people, clerks, and delivery people all come together to help a neighbor in need. Simply put, if you have an interest in home repair and can lend a hand, we can use your help.

Young adults are welcome, too! Young adults, ages 14-17, can work with adult supervision according to a three-young-adults-to-one-adult ratio. Individuals are encouraged to volunteer by calling 1-800-887-HOPE (4673). Most volunteers are affiliated with a sponsoring organization.

Volunteers need not be skilled at home repair. Any talent can and will be put to use. Each team consists of 20 or more volunteers. Smaller groups of volunteers are welcome and will be assigned if a project calls for reinforcements.

Each team is led by a House Captain (frequently a building trades professional) and a Volunteer Coordinator. These leaders ensure a smooth implementation of the program on HomeFront Day.

## WHERE DO SKILLED VOLUNTEERS COME FROM?

Community-minded companies and individuals participate in the program by contributing their skills, equipment, trucks, tools and services, all of which are assigned to homes on an as-needed basis. Without our professional service volunteers (electricians, carpenters, tree surgeons, plumbers, etc.), many of these repairs could not be done.

## HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED?

Volunteers, both skilled and unskilled, are needed to work year-round at HomeFront to help with planning, organizing, and recruiting. Financial gifts and donations of products and services are greatly appreciated. Donations to HomeFront are tax deductible.

HomeFront is dedicated to reaching out to our neighbors in need. We believe that through the generosity and concern of many people in our cities and towns, we can restore HOPE to families and HELP to make our communities better and brighter places.

To volunteer, contribute, or recommend someone for help,  
please call HomeFront at 1-800-887-HOPE (4673).

**HOMEFRONT, INC.**

88 Hamilton Avenue

Stamford, CT 06902

800-887-4673 (HOPE) • Fax (203)327-7310

**Application Deadline****November 16, 2012****For Office Use Only**

District # \_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledged \_\_\_\_\_

**2013 HOMEFRONT HOMEOWNER APPLICATION**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**HOMEOWNER NAME(S)****Note:** HomeFront is not able to provide repair assistance for condominiums, co-ops, mobile homes and *some* multiple family homes.

<b>Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.</b>	<b>First:</b>		<b>Last :</b>	
<b>Street Address, City, State, Zip:</b>				
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>Alternate Phone:</b>		

**\*\*Each year many applicants do not receive consideration because they could not be reached.\*\***

Name of person submitting application if other than Homeowner: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list names and ages of all household members below:**

<b>Name(s)</b>	<b>Current Age</b>	<b>Current Annual Income</b>
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
<b>***If this is a multiple-family home, please list rental income.***</b>		\$
<b>Total Gross Household Annual Income</b>		\$

How much money is in savings for the household? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Is the Homeowner a single parent with dependent children living in the house?  Yes  NoAre the property taxes paid up to date?  Yes  No If no, how much is in arrears? \$ \_\_\_\_\_Does anyone in the household have a disability?  Yes  No

If yes, please describe \_\_\_\_\_

Is the Homeowner 65 years old or older?  Yes  NoIs anyone in your household a veteran or active duty service member?  Yes  No Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the top three (3) most needed repairs. \*Note: Our program is limited to one (1) day of work.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about HomeFront?  Newspaper  Church  Friend/Family  Other**\*\*If other resources are available, may we refer you to other agencies?  Yes  No\*\***

**Note:** HomeFront does not provide landscaping or driveway paving. We undertake typical residential repairs in this one-day effort. Applicants are contacted in the Fall/ Winter to schedule a home visit. HomeFront does not verbally communicate any information on whether or not an applicant will be assisted. In April 2013, all applicants will be **notified in writing only** as to whether or not they have been accepted as a HomeFront recipient. **In most cases, the majority of the work will be done on "HomeFront Day," Sat., May 4, 2013.**

**PLEASE COMPLETE & SIGN REVERSE SIDE**

## HOUSE SELECTION REQUIREMENTS

If my house is selected for improvement as part of the HomeFront Program, I understand and agree to the following:

1. I own the property being considered and all information given in this application package is, to my knowledge, true and accurate.
2. I currently live in the home for which I am seeking assistance.
3. The people working on my home are unpaid volunteers, not necessarily skilled in the building trades; and HomeFront does not guarantee the materials used or work done by anyone on my house.
4. Any family, friends or representatives who are unwilling to help must be away from my house during HomeFront Day, if physically able. Any of my family, friends or representatives who wish to work with the HomeFront volunteers may do so under the direction of the team leaders. If physically unable, I am not required to work and may remain at the home all day.
5. HomeFront is authorized to verify the accuracy of all information provided to determine my eligibility.
6. I  have  have not applied for or received help from HomeFront, Inc. or similar programs. Keep in mind that providing this information does not reduce your chances of being helped by HomeFront. Please list name(s) of program(s) and year applied and helped, if applicable.

7. I do not plan to leave or sell my house within five years of HomeFront Day 2013.
8. yes no **I am the sole owner of the property being considered and my household income is as I have stated on the front page of this application.**

**OR**

yes no **I am the co-owner of the property being considered and the other co-owner's gross income is \$\_\_\_\_\_ and my total household income is as I have stated on the front page of this application.**

9. I do not own more than one home.
10. I will not hold HomeFront and all associated liable for any reason.
11. **I understand that submission of this application package is in no way a guarantee of a service and that the selections of recipients are based on need, available volunteer teams, and HomeFront's ability to undertake the needed repairs.**

Homeowner's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Homeowner's Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

**After completing both sides of application, please mail to:**

**HomeFront, Inc.  
88 Hamilton Avenue  
Stamford, CT 06902**

**You may contact us at 800-887-4673 (HOPE) with any questions.**